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Establishment and implementation of standards for the global geospatial information community

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management its report on establishing and implementing standards for the global geospatial information community. The report is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the way forward for the international geospatial information community, including in considering mechanisms to assist Member States in adopting the existing standards and implementing them in national legal and policy frameworks.

Summary of the report

At its second session, held in August 2012, the Committee of Experts took note of the suggestion by technical committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO/TC211) to put forward, jointly with the Open Geospatial Consortium and the International Hydrographic Organization, a proposal on the issues related to standard-setting in the international community (see E/2012/46, decision 2/103).

A preliminary paper, prepared by ISO/TC211, the Open Geospatial Consortium and the International Hydrographic Organization, was presented at the second High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, held in Doha, Qatar, from 4 to 6 February 2013. It provided background information on the organizations

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developing standards and their procedures; collaboration on the issue; future areas in standardization; and the trends in information technology that affect standards in the context of global geospatial information management.

The report provides an overview of the range of standards that are available and applicable in the context of the Committee of Experts and highlights areas where contributions can be made to establish and implement standards in order to support the objectives of consistent, standardized and interoperable datasets in national contexts.